

Application No. 09/595,005

RD-27442

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 14 and bridging pages 13 to 14, with the following amended paragraph:

The selected members are synthesized in duplicate for a total of 110 actual experiments. The members are evaluated for performance in a process for the production of aromatic carbonates. ~~In this process,~~ In the evaluation, each of the metal acetylacetonates, the DMAA, and the DMFA are made up as stock solutions in phenol. Appropriate quantities of each stock solution are then combined using a Hamilton MicroLab 4000TM laboratory robot into a single vial for mixing. For example, to produce mix 1 of TABLE 4, the stock solutions are 0.01 molar Pd(acetylacetonate), 0.01 molar each of Cr(acetylacetonate), Ca(acetylacetonate) and Gd(acetylacetonate) and 10 molar DMFA. Ten ml of each stock solution are produced by manual weighing and mixing. Aliquots of the stock solutions are measured as follows in TABLE 4. The mixture is stirred using a miniature magnetic stirrer, and then 25 microliters are measured out using the Hamilton robot to each of two 2-ml vials. This small quantity forms a thin film on the vial bottom.